

Defying Gravity

Station materials:

- Several feathers
- Small Soccer Balls (3)
- Balloons (12)

Station set-up:

- Blow up and tie off three or four balloons
- Set up materials into three piles on table

Guiding the learning:

- Ask students if they know what makes things fall down (gravity)
- Challenge student to keep a feather from touching the floor using just their breath
- Challenge student to keep balloon from touching the floor using just their hands
- Challenge student to keep the ball from touching the floor using their feet (or hands)
- Ask students which object took the most effort to keep from the floor (ball)
- Ask students what about that object makes it the hardest to fight gravity (it has the most mass)

Science Talking Points:

- Gravity is a force that pulls objects towards the center of the earth.
- The more massive (more weight) an object, the more it will be effected by the force of gravity.
- Objects of similar mass may fall towards the earth at different rates if there is a difference in surface area. (Feathers will be slowed down by the air pushing up on them)